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LETTER DATED 4 AUGUST 1999 FROM THE CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF YUGOSLAVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have been instructed by my Government to strongly protest the manner in which the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) has established customs control at four border crossings on the border of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia with the Republic of Albania and the Republic of Macedonia.

The customs proceedings in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia are regulated by federal laws for the entire territory of the country. Taking any of its parts out of the unified jurisdiction constitutes a flagrant violation of the provisions of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999), in particular paragraphs 10 and 11 and annex 2, points 5 and 8, in which the Council reaffirms the territorial integrity of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and its sovereignty over Kosovo and Metohija in unequivocal terms.

The representatives of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia held a number of meetings with the representatives of UNMIK and KFOR at which the problem of establishing customs control at border crossings on the border of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia with the Republic of Albania and the Republic of Macedonia was considered. Despite those meetings and without an agreement with, or the participation of, competent Yugoslav authorities, UNMIK has set out to establish a separate customs service at the border crossings of Djeneral Jankovic, Globocica, Cafa Prusit and Vrbnica, in outright disregard of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

In bringing these facts to your attention, I take the opportunity to point out that UNMIK is duty-bound to comply with the Security Council resolution and strictly implement its provisions and to harmonize the customs control at the said border crossings with the positive laws of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in full respect of its sovereignty and territorial integrity.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Vladislav JOVANOVIC
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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